

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 AID-05 /018 W

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P R 131950Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6123

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S/NM FOR VANCE; AID/SER/INC FOR WAMPLER; DEA/EOI FOR CUSACK;
AID&GC FOR FINK; AID/FM/RSD FOR MCKEEL; DEA/SAO/MEX FOR SWANK

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: SNAR MX

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR WASHINGTON ACTION ON PROCUREMENT OF
BALLISTIC PANEL PROTOTYPES FOR AG AERO SERVICE ROTARY
WNG FLEET

REF A. MEMO: BERNAL 7/10/76, B. MEMO: FORD 6/24/76,
C. MEXICO 8296

1. SUMMARY: ON JULY 12 SPECIAL ASST FOR NARCOTICS MATTERS
DELIVERED TO S/NM MEMO CITED IN REF A RELATED TO RESULTS
OF DAY-LONG MEETING ON 10 JULY AT AG HANGAR WITH ARMOUR
OF AMERICA REPS AND AG SENIOR STAFF. POINTS COVERED IN REF B
AND C ARE FURTHER QUALIFIED IN REF A ON MODIFICATIONS TO
PERSONAL PROTECTIVE VEST. ARMOUR OF AMERICA PRESIDENT
(ART SCHREIBER) PLANS TO CALL AID/INC THIS DATE IN ORDER
TO OBTAIN AUTHORIZATION TO COMMENCE MANUFACTURE OF 100 VESTS
ON PRIORITY BASIS. ADDITIONALLY, MISSION REQUESTS WASHINGTON
INITIATE PROCUREMENT TO COMMENCE PROTOTYPE BALLISTIC
PANELS FOR BOTH MODEL 206-B AND MODEL 212. END SUMMARY.

2. ARMOUR OF AMERICA PRESIDENT AND ASSOCIATE (SCHREIBER AND
LOCKE) ARRIVED ON EVENING 9 JULY TO DELIVER CORRECTED SAMPLE
OF PROTECTIVE VEST SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR RW AIRCRAFT CREWS
AND TO DISCUSS DETAILS ON RW AIRCRAFT TEMPLATES RECENTLY
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SUBMITTED BY AV ADV FORD TO FACTORY.

3. BODY PROTECTIVE VEST AS PROPOSED BY SCHREIBER AND APPROVED JOINTLY BY AG SENIOR STAFF AND MISSION CONSISTS OF THREE SEPARATE PIECES WHICH ARE EASILY ATTACHED. MAJOR PROTECTION IS PROVIDED BY MODIFIED CHEST PROTECTOR WITH DETACHABLE PELVIC PROTECTOR AND DETACHABLE BACK PIECE. THIS VEST WAS PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED IN DETAIL IN MEMO CITED IN REF B WHICH WAS POUCHED TO WASHINGTON. TOTOAL COST OF VESTS IS ESTIMATED AT DOLLARS THIRTY THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY (\$30,250) WHICH INCLUDES 100 SETS OF CHEST AND PELVIC PROTECTORS. 50 BACK PIECE PROTECTORS, AND 25 HARD ARMOUR PLATES AS OPTIONAL CHEST PROTECTION AGAINST HIGH POWERED MILITARY-TYPE PROJECTILES. LEADTIME FOR DELIVERY AFTER RECEIPT OF FIRM PURCHASE ORDER IS APPROX 15 DAYS.

4. MODEL 206-B BALLISTIC PANELS: EACH SET WILL CONSIST OF 15 INDIVIDUAL PIECES CUT IN CONFORMITY WITH TAMPLATES SUBMITTED. ESTIMATED TOTAL WEIGHT OF EACH SET PER SHIP IS 175 LBS. THIS ESTIMATED WEIGHT IS CALCULATED AND WILL NOT BE KNOWN UNTIL RECEIPT OF FIRM PURCHASE ORDER AND PRTOYPE SET IS COMPLETED. SCHREIBER'S PROPOSAL IS TO COMPLETE PROTPTYPE SE AND SEND FACTORY TECHREP TO MEXICO CITY TO TRAIN AG TECHS ON INSTALLATION OF FIRST SET. IF NO MAJOR ALTERATIONS ARE REQUIRED, FACTORY CAN GO INTO FULL PRODUCTION. SAME PROCEDURE APPLIES TO MODEL 212 INITIAL FITTING AND INSTALLATION. ESTIMATED OCST IS \$4,900 FOR FIRST SET AND \$4,300 PER SET THEREAFTER. SCHREIBER JUDGES HE CAN DELIVER ALL SETS PRIOR TO 1 SET IF ISSUANCE OF FIRM PURCHASE ORDER IS NOT UNDULY DELAYED. ESTIMATED TOTAL COST FOR THE MODEL 206-B BALLISTIC PANELS IS \$60,000.

5. MODEL 212 BALLISTIC PANELS: DUE TO LARGE SEATING AREA IN THIS HEAVY LIFT AIRCRAFT, AMOUNT OF BALLISTIC MATERIAL REQUIRED IS ALMOST DOUBLED. EACH SET OF PANELS PER SHIP CONSISTS OF 22 INDIVIDUAL PANELS IN CONFORMITY WITH TAMPLATES SUBMITTED. ESTIMATED WEIGHT AFTER CUTTINH AND FINISHING IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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350 LBS PER SET. COST FOR FIRST PROTOTYPE IS \$7,950 AND \$7,325 FOR EACH SET STHEREAFTER, FOR TOTAL COST OF \$132,475.

6. MISSION ESTIMATES TOTAL COST FOR PROTECTIVE VESTS AND BALLISTICS PANELS FOR RW FLEET IS APPROX \$225,000 WHICH DOES NOT INCLUDE SHIPPING COSTS. MISSION JUDGES THAT USE OF BALLISTIC MATERIAL PANELS IN RW AIRCRAFT HAS SIGNIFICANT ADVANARES OVER USE OF HARD ARMOUR. TESTED AND AGREED TO THIRTY PLY

LAYER OF KEVLAR WILL STOP MOST OF HOSTILE GROUND FIRE
WHICH HAS BEEN DIRECTED AGAINST AIRCRAFT. MATERIAL IS LIGHT
AND PLIABLE AND MAY BE CONFIGURED DEPENDING ON NATURE OF MISSION
TO BE FLOWN. PANELS MAY BE DETACHED OR ATTACHED IN ANY TACTICAL
AREA WITH NO TOOLS WHATSOEVER AS SYSTEM CONSISTS OF STRAPS
AND VELCRO PILE AND HOOK ATTACHMENTS.

7. REQUESTED ACTION: THAT WAS INGTON GROUP REVIEW AND APPROVE
REQUEST AND INITIATE PROCUREMENT IN
ORDER TO MEET 1 SEPT
DEADLINE FOR INSTALLATION OF BALLISTIC PANELS. FYI: COPY OF
MEMO CITED IN REF A MAILED TO AV ADV FORD JULY 12 TO APPRISE
HIM ON MOST RECENT DEVELOPMENT SO HE MAY DISCUSS WITH WASHINGTON
GROUP DURING HIS TDY SCHEDULED FOR 19 JULY IF DESIRED. H
ADVISE.
JOVA

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